

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 3-7, 9-14, 16-19.

Please cancel Claim 20.

1. (Original) A cutting or crushing implement comprising:

a plurality of sets of jaws, each set of jaws including opposing upper and lower jaws which are positioned side by side and are pivotable about and displaced along a common axis,

wherein adjacent upper and/or lower jaws are displaced relative to one another about said axis so that when operated the sets of jaws are together adapted to cut or crush a single length of material at a plurality of separate points along the length of said material, and whereby a single actuation of said implement is adapted to cause each of said sets of jaws to at least partially close in sequence.

2. (Original) A crushing or cutting implement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the consecutive closing of adjacent sets of jaws places a first set of jaws in a cutting or crushing configuration and a second immediately adjacent set of jaws in a substantially clamping configuration.

3. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said sets of jaws are adapted to pivot closed to complete a cutting, crushing or shearing operation.

4. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein a single actuation of the implement is capable of causing all of the sets of jaws to close.

5. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, which is configured to be actuated through the operation of a hydraulic ram associated with machinery to which the implement is attached.

6. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the sets of jaws are all adapted to pivot about a single common axis to at least partially close.

7. (Original) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in claim 6 wherein one jaw from each set of jaws is fixed relative to a common pivot axis

8. (Original) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in claim 6, wherein each of the jaws fixed relative to the common pivot axis are fixed at a different angle about the axis

9. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein each set of jaws is formed by two opposing jaws elements which are adapted to move together to cut, crush, crack or shear a length of material.

10. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the plurality of sets of jaws are adapted to each execute a separate cut through a length of material in a single actuation of the implement.

11. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein each of the sets of jaws are adapted to close at separate positions along the length of the material.

12. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, further including a jaw displacement system adapted to modify the distance between adjacent jaws.

13. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein each jaw set is formed from two opposed V-shaped jaw elements.

14. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein each jaw includes at least one blade, wherein each blade incorporates a leading edge.

15. (Original) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in claim 14, wherein the leading edge of each blade is oriented opposite to a leading edge of an immediately adjacent jaw's blade or blades.

16. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, which is configured to connect to machinery adapted to operate the implement.

17. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, which is adapted to connect to the actuator arm of an excavator.

Appl. No. : 10/523,898
I.A. Filing Date : August 6, 2003

18. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, which are adapted to cut, crush, crack or shear a variety of different types of material.

19. (Currently Amended) A cutting or crushing implement as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 17, which includes a driving ram adapted to operate in conjunction with the excavator to pivot top portions of the sets of jaws about a single common axis to close the jaws and complete a cutting operation.

20. (Cancelled)